

August - September 2017



Rethinking crime accountability

The way the department shares and acts on crime information is changing in a way that holds more people accountable, according to Chief Rick Smith.

“We’re not going to stop all crimes, but we need to identify pattern crimes and prolific offenders quicker so we can stop them before there are more victims,” Chief Smith said.

The previous IRIS (Incident Review Information Sharing) meetings were a step toward that but needed more follow-up, Chief Smith said. Semi-weekly IRIS meetings – which involved everyone from detectives to commanders across the department – have been exchanged for weekly crime meetings in the Chief’s office attended by the six patrol division commanders and commanders of the Violent Crimes, Violent Crimes Enforcement, Special Operations, Traffic and Homeland Security divisions.

Chief Smith said he expects these commanders already to be aware of what’s happening in their areas.

“Information sharing should happen at the division level,” he said. “Accountability should happen at the command staff level.”

Sergeant Jonas Baughman facilitates the process in the newly created crime coordinator position. He provides both the divisions and Chief Smith with detailed weekly crime data and maps, pointing out patterns, recent parolees and concerning issues that need follow-up.

“It’s not about rehashing what’s already happened,” Sergeant Baughman said. “Each division summarizes what they’re facing and what needs to be done, and what support is needed to achieve a resolution. It doesn’t need to be a two-hour meeting going over meaningless datasets. The beauty is in the simplicity: just talking about crime and what we’re doing about it.”

But Sergeant Baughman, who has extensive experience in intelligence gathering and data analysis, doesn’t intend to just sit behind a desk making charts.

“The way I envision it is a little bit of data reporting and



analysis, but more of a conduit of communication across divisions,” he said. “I go out into the field to lend a hand or get a perspective on a problem. What’s going on with it? Why is it so bad?”

For example, Sergeant Baughman noticed a Northland bicycle shop had been broken into three times recently. He went to the store and saw that the lighting around it was very poor, so he contacted the owner and told him how adequate lighting could improve the store’s security.

“I think it’s about what I can do to supplement patrol, which

is one of Chief Smith’s big goals – how we can all supplement patrol,” Sergeant Baughman said. “I want to be more of a help than a burden.”

The crime meetings with Chief Smith are not meant to be “gotcha’s,” Sergeant Baughman said. Information is widely shared beforehand, and division commanders already should be aware of their issues.

Like Chief Smith implemented at Central Patrol when he was its commander, all patrol divisions now have at least weekly crime information-sharing meetings. Many of the problems brought up at those meetings get handled at the division level before they’re even presented to the Chief, Sergeant Baughman said. For example, a burglary pattern is noted, so officers educate residents about prevention and then catch the suspect. Since it was taken care of, it doesn’t necessarily need to come to the Chief’s attention. The idea is that everyone from the street-level officers up to the major is held accountable for preventing and solving crime.

Neighborhood issues will be monitored in a similar manner, Chief Smith said. The department is working to create a database tracking all neighborhood concerns and how police have followed up on them.

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Garrett appointed to BOPC

The Kansas City Missouri Board of Police Commissioners has had many lawyers as members over the years, but Nathan Garrett is likely the first to also have been a police officer, county and federal prosecutor, Highway Patrol Trooper and FBI agent.

Governor Eric Greitens appointed Garrett to the Board to fulfill Alvin Brooks' term. Brooks resigned to take a seat on the Hickman Mills School Board. Garrett was sworn in July 27.

As commissioner, Garrett said he plans not to lead KCPD from afar.

"My intention is to be very involved in the process, trying to lend aid and help to make decisions that move the Police Department forward," he said.

Garrett grew up in West Plains, Mo., which is in the southern part of the state. He went to Iowa and Oklahoma for undergraduate and law school, respectively. But for a year in between the two, he returned to his home town to work the overnight shift as an officer with the West Plains Police Department. When he was off from law school during the summers, he continued to serve in that capacity.

Upon law school graduation, he returned to his home county, Howell, as an assistant prosecutor. He said he couldn't shake his interest in law enforcement, however, so he became a Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper. But he didn't give up his day job initially. In fact, he had to take a one-week leave from the Highway Patrol Academy to try a murder case (which he won). He was the first and only attorney member of the MSHP.

He got an offer from the FBI two years later.

"There was a lot of intervening story there," Garrett said.

He worked out of the Dallas FBI office as a counter-terrorism agent. After the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, he put his lawyer hat back on, and was appointed as a Special Assistant United States Attorney. He still remained an FBI agent.

"I was prosecuting cases as well as being involved in the investiga-

tion," he said.

He left the FBI in 2002 and became a full-time federal prosecutor in the Western Missouri U.S. Attorney's Office, prosecuting international fraud and national security cases. He worked under then-U.S. Attorney Todd Graves. After six years there, he and Graves formed their

own law firm that does government investigation work and defense at a federal level for corporate and executive-level clients, as well as commercial litigation.

"My support for law enforcement is well-documented," Garrett said. "I've been to plenty of police academies in my life, and I'm looking forward to bringing that body of experience to help advance and support the Police Department."

Garrett's swearing-in to the Kansas City Board of Police Commissioners came at an interesting time. He officially joined the Board the day before they voted on the new Chief of Police. But he said he was heavily involved long before he was sworn in. He researched all the candidates, attended all the interviews and spent countless hours poring over materials and discussing the selection with the other Board members.

"I was as involved as all the other Board of Police Commissioners members," Garrett said. "The notion I walked in and cast the deciding vote for chief is hogwash."

The Board voted 3-2 to select KCPD's Richard Smith as the new Chief. Garrett thanked the current Board members, especially President Leland Shurin, for coordinating such an organized, in-depth and transparent chief selection process and welcoming him with open arms.

Garrett is married with two children, a daughter who is a senior in high school and a son who is in 8th grade at Pembroke Hill. His wife volunteers with reading programs at several urban-core schools. In his free time, Garrett is a pilot and enjoys flying. He also takes interest in "anything old," especially vintage motorcycles and firearms.



Credit Union opens 1st KS location



The Greater KC Public Safety Credit Union has expanded to the Kansas side of the state line. The Credit Union opened a new branch on Sept. 15 in a remodeled Wendy's restaurant at 7721 W. 123rd St. in Overland Park. The new branch is open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Credit Union celebrated the new branch with a grand opening celebration and open house on Oct. 11.

KCPD retirement plans hit \$1B

The Kansas City Police Employees Retirement System (KCPERS) reached a ten-digit milestone on Sept. 19.

For the first time ever, KCPERS hit \$1 billion in combined assets that day. The Police Plan ended the day with a market value of \$862 million, and the Civilian Employees' plan had \$138 million. Those figures are all-time highs for both plans.

The Retirement Office celebrated by inviting all current and retired members to a party on Sept. 22 at their Office in the South Patrol Division Multipurpose Building.

"The feeling of having \$1 billion in our two plans should be a lot like when you were growing up and for the first time had \$100 or \$1,000 in your credit union account," KCPERS Manager Jim Pyle said. "Members should have that same kind of feeling today about their Retirement Systems. The \$1 billion milestone shows that member and City contributions have grown, through investment earnings, to an amount that is a pretty big number for plans our size."

Combined, Pyle said KCPERS is the seventh-largest public employee retirement plan in Missouri.

"Reaching this \$1 billion milestone could not have happened without the work and due diligence of Retirement Boards dating back to 1946 for the Police plan and 1965 for the Civilian Employees' plan," Pyle said. "The assets in the plan allow us to perform our most important job and that is providing a secure retirement to the 2,625 members of the

Police plan and 787 members of the Civilian Employees' Plan."

Last year, KCPERS paid \$60 million in benefits to retired members and survivors in the Police plan and \$7 million to retired members and survivors in the Civilian Employees' plan.

The total value of assets fluctuates regularly depending on financial markets.

The elected Retirement Board is responsible for the operations of the Retirement Systems, including asset allocation and monitoring of the investments, Pyle said. The full board or the Investment Committee meets regularly with an investment consultant to review the investment portfolios and the performance of KCPERS' 13 investment managers. The Retirement Board relies on the advice of that consultant to help allocate the funds to different assets classes (stocks, bonds, and alternatives) and to the best investment managers. Ultimately it is the Board's decision on how and with whom to invest the funds. The Board measures the performance of the funds against both a target benchmark and other peer public retirement systems.

"The Retirement Board follows an



Celebrating the KCPERS hitting \$1 billion in assets are Manager Jim Pyle, Board Member Gary Jenkins, Money Manager Peter Greig of FCI Advisors, immediate past Board Member Barb Stuart and Chief (and immediate past Retirement Board President) Rick Smith.

Investment Policy that over time should generate the highest possible returns, with an acceptable level of risk, at a reasonable cost," Pyle said.

The Retirement Systems' funds are trust funds under the provisions of both the State of Missouri and the Internal Revenue Service Code. The money in the funds can only be used to pay benefits to members and for the expenses to run the Retirement Systems office.

Entrant Officer Class 160 Graduates



Entrant Officer Class 160 graduated August 10 with 16 officers being sworn into the Kansas City Missouri Police Department, and five sworn into outside agencies. Valedictorian of the class was KCPD Officer Abigail Lawrence, and the Richard Fletcher Director's Award went to Independence Police Officer Nicholas VanHoeke.

KC hosts NAWLEE Conference



About 240 female law enforcement members and those who support them came from 32 states to Kansas City for the 22nd Annual National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives Annual Conference from Aug. 2-5.

The Kansas City, Mo., and Lenexa, Kan., police departments cohosted the conference. Women from several other metro-area police agencies who are part of the Women's Public Safety Network also helped organize the event. From picking venues to selecting speakers and registration, the women put in countless hours on top of their regular jobs.

"A lot of time, hard work and coordination went into this conference," KCPD Major Donna Greenwell said.

And it paid off. All the feedback was positive, with many attendees saying it was the best NAWLEE conference yet due to location, hospitality, speaker quality and organization.

The conference theme was "The Time is Now."

"This year's theme represents each and every one of us in our capacities as national and international law enforcement executives and aspiring leaders, highlighting who we are and the commitment we share in addressing the distinct issues facing women in law enforcement," said NAWLEE President Dawn Layman, who is a major at the Lenexa Police Department.

On several occasions, the conference generated what many participants called "NAWLEE Magic."

"The 'magic' of NAWLEE refers to the myriad feelings attendees/members experience in having the opportunity to share, confide, network, learn, empower, hope, create friendships, and get support from a collective group of inspirational and professional leaders," Major Greenwell said.

NAWLEE is the first organization established to address the unique needs of women holding senior management positions in law enforcement. Its mission is to serve and further the interests of women executives and those who aspire to be executives in law enforcement.

The conference covered topics germane to women in police leadership as well as broader public safety issues.

Police respond to flash floods

Police joined with firefighters to manage two major flooding incidents on July 26-27 and August 21-22.

The areas around Indian Creek in south Kansas City were most impacted by the July flood. Firefighters had to cut a hole in the roof of a bar and grill at 103rd and Wornall to rescue the business's owners, who had climbed into the ceiling to escape the rising flood waters. The owners later told news media the restaurant will not reopen in that location due to the damage and propensity for flooding.

The flooding was more severe on Aug. 22, affecting not just the Indian Creek area again, but also those who lived and worked along the Blue River and in Westport, as well as several other low-lying areas in the city. Police closed a total of 27 different intersections and roadways at the peak of the flooding, including seven bridges.

Based on their experience from the July flood, KCPD officers and KCFD firefighters went door-to-door the night of Aug. 21 to contact residents as soon as a flood warning was issued. They specifically asked those living near Indian creek to voluntarily evacuate.

From 10 p.m. Aug. 21 to 10 a.m. August 22, KCPD and the Fire Department responded to 272 calls for water-related issues. Sixty-two were for water rescue. Firefighters pulled one woman out of a tree who had escaped her flooding car near 103rd and Wornall. Forty people had to be rescued from their flooded workplaces in the Swope Parkway Industrial Complex near 75th and Monroe.

Officers were flagged down about 3 a.m. Aug. 22 near 50th and Raytown Road about a woman in her 30's who had been swept away by flood waters from Round Grove Creek. Missing Persons Section detectives located her body while canvassing the area after waters receded.

As the Blue River was expected to crest the afternoon of Aug. 22, officers evacuated the residents of the Heart Mobile Village near Blue River Road and 40 Highway. The Kansas City Area Transportation Authority assisted by busing residents to higher ground until the river went back down.

Members of the police department worked throughout both events in the City's Emergency Operations Center, alongside staff from the Fire, Emergency Management and other City departments.



KCPD friends help after hurricanes



KKCPD members, retired officers and the KCPD Friends and Family (KCPDFF) organization all worked to provide some relief for battered communities in Texas hit by Hurricane Harvey. Retired Officer Morgan Pfaff solicited donations of personal care items from department members for her hometown of Katy. The items were gathered with the help of KCPDFF and the Private Alarm Office. Retired Officer Pfaff delivered them over Labor Day weekend.

Then Officer Rita Olson-Stawicki worked with KCPDFF to gather notes of appreciation for first responders in Nederland from Kansas City children. She coordinated with the KC Blackout youth basketball team that practices in the East Patrol Division gym to assemble snack packs with the notes inside. On Sept. 24, KCPDFF members took those snack packs, along with toiletries, cleaning supplies and household items they'd gathered to assist 10 members of the Nederland Police Department who'd lost everything to the hurricane. They drove around the devastated areas of the town handing out the snack packs to first responders.



Officially Speaking

Awards

Special Unit Citation
Communications Unit
DUI Section

Life-Saving Award
Sergeant Craig Holmer

Meritorious Service Award
Officer Kevin Colhour

Certificate of Commendation
Officer William Bedell
Officer Johnathon Dawdy
Officer Damon Hawley

25-Year Rings

Major Helen Burke
Major Darren Ivey
Captain Natalina Ehlers
Captain Timothy Riepe
Sergeant Cleve Blakely
Sergeant Thomas Clark
Sergeant Robert DeYaeghere
Sergeant Brad Dumit
Sergeant Eben Hall
Sergeant Jeffrey Jennings
Sergeant Christopher Majors
Sergeant Anthony Mak
Sergeant James Pearce

Sergeant Robert Schofield
Master Police Officer Charles Hill
Officer Gary Coots
Officer Kevin Green
Officer Richard Hampton
Officer Matthew Hannah
Detective Cory Horalek
Administrative Assistant
Sharlene Crabtree
Detention Officer Robin Worth
Supervisor Susan Havlic
Reserve Officer Wayne Jones
Retired Detective Jody Reid

Promotions

To Major
Helen Burke
Mark Folsom
Chip Huth
Darren Ivey

Retirements

Master Police Officer Michael Briggs
Officer Matthew Hannah
Master Detective Terence Carter
Detective Wayne Jones
Detective Jody Reid
Detective Christopher Ruark
Detective Steven Wells
Administrative Assistant Karen Petree
Administrative Assistant Alice Young
Dispatcher Hazel Nunn-Boyd

Obituaries

Retired Police Officer Jackie Cocherell
Retired Officer George Dunlap
Retired Civilian William Richardson

Upcoming Events

October 16
Chief's Office Boss's Day
Open House

October 21
Heartland Canine
Competition & Demonstration

October 28
Metro Patrol Division Trunk or
Treat

October 29
KCPD Friends & Family Trunk
or Treat at the Academy

The mission of the
Kansas City Missouri
Police Department
is to protect and serve
with professionalism,
honor

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Chief Smith sworn in



Chief Richard C. Smith swore the oath of office of Chief of Police of the Kansas City Missouri Police Department the morning of Aug. 15, administered by Missouri Supreme Court Judge Brent Powell.